

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EUR-25 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

/192 W

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R 281440Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1043

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

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E O 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI PARTY ELECTION PLATFORMS -- INTERNAL ISSUES

1. WITH PUBLIC CONCERN DOMINATED BY QUESTIONS OF PEACE AND SECURITY, POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING BY MAJOR PARTIES HAS FOCUSED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON THESE ISSUES. LITTLE ATTENTION HAS BEEN PAID TO OFFICIAL PARTY POSITIONS ON INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS. DIFFERENCES IN POSITIONS OF MAJOR PARTIES, PARTICULARLY IN AREA OF RELIGION, HOWEVER, COULD LEAD TO DIFFICULTIES IN FORMING NEXT COALITION GOVERNMENT. ECONOMIC AND LEGAL PROBLEMS ARE LIKELY TO PLAY MARGINAL ROLE IN COALITION POLITICS AND IN INFLUENCING VOTES OF THOSE WHO ARE STILL UNCOMMITTED.

2. RELIGION: BOTH LABOR ALIGNMENT AND LIKUD AND IN THEIR LONG-
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DEL*YED PLATF RMS CALL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

BECAUSE OF INTERNAL DIFFERENCES ON RELATION-SHIP BETWEEN STATE AND RELIGION WITHIN LIKUD, PARTY PLATFORM CONFINES ITSELF TO GENERAL STATEMENT THAT STATE WILL ENSURE FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE TO ALL RESIDENTS WITHOUT CONDITIONS AND FULL FREEDOM TO ALL RELIGIOUS GROUPS. ALIGNMENT PLATFORM PLEDGES LEGISLATIVE ACTION IF NECESSARY TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS OF PERSONAL STATUS (E.E. MARITAL STATUS), AND TO FACILITATE AND EXPEDITE RELIGIOUS CONVERSION PROCEDURES. INDEPENDENT LIBERAL PARTY (ILP) CALLS FOR RIGHT TO MARRY FOR ALL-- I.E. CIVIL MARRIAGE FOR JEWS NOT CURRENTLY QUALIFYING FOR RELIGIOUS MARRIAGE CEREMONY AS IS NOW COMPULSORY. IN CONTRAST, NATIONAL RELIGIOUS PARTY (NRP), IS COMMITTED TO STRENGTHENING RELIGIOUS MARRIAGE LAWS AND TO PRESERVING PREROGATIVE OF RELIGIOUS AUTHORITIES TO DECIDE " WHO IS A JEW," IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH ORTHODOX LAW, AND HENCE ENTITLED TO ISRAELI CITIZENSHIP.

3. CONSTITUTION: ALIGNMENT AND LIKUD CALL FOR ENACTMENT OF BASIC LAWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO BE INCORPORATED INTO WRITTEN CONSTITUTION. ILP HAS * OPTED A SIMILAR POSITION WHILE NRP HAS NOT TAKEN A STAND ON;THIS ISSUE.

4. ECONOMIC POLICY: ALIGNMENT PLATFORM ON ECONOMIC POLICY DEALS M*INLY * TH CURRENT EMERGENCY --ASSURING MAXIMUM OPERATION OF ECONOMY, FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF SACRIFICES, PREVENTION OF WAR PROFITS, AND GREATER EFFICIENCY. IT PLEDGES CONTINUED ECONOMIC GROWTH WITH RELATIVE PRICE STABILITY AT END OF EMERGENCY. LIKUD PROMISES SELF-SUFFICIENT ECONOMY BUILT ON FREE ENTERPRISE AND FAIR COMPETITION, AND PLEDGES QUICK ECONOMIC GROWTH TO ENABL DECENT LIVIN* STAND**D FOR ALL AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO NARROW SOCIAL GAP. IT CALLS FOR LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR MEDIATION AND*ARBITRATION OF LABOR DISPUTES, MINIMU *WAGES, HEALTH *NSURANCE AND PENSIONS. ILP CALLS FOR ARBITRAT ON OF LABOR DISPUTES.
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Disposition History: n/a
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